

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of manufacturing a water-absorbing shaped body that is produced easily without using a thickening agent. Light is radiated onto an aqueous solution including a photo polymerization initiator and a water-soluble ethylenically unsaturated monomer. When a desired viscosity is attained, radiation of the light is stopped temporarily. Then, the aqueous solution, which is thickened, is shaped into a desired shape. Thereafter, polymerization is completed by radiating light again.